



February 2025



Hello from your PCC

From listening to local communities and understanding what matters most to you, I recently launched my new Police and Crime Plan. This plan sets out six key priorities, including an ongoing commitment to tackling serious violence.

Through the Violence Reduction Unit's public health approach, and our partners, we are working to address the root causes of violent crime while taking proactive steps to prevent young people being drawn into violence.

I'm pleased to share that we are making real progress in reducing serious violence and knife crime, with our efforts delivering positive results.

Your voice remains at the heart of everything we do because lasting change is only possible when we work together. I'm proud of how far we've come, and I'm confident that, together, we will create safer, stronger communities for everyone.

Susan Dungworth
Northumbria Police & Crime Commissioner

IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS...

5.8% ↓ reduction in serious violence across Northumbria.

5.7% ↓ reduction in offences involving a knife across Northumbria.

28% ↓ reduction in hospital admissions due to an assault.

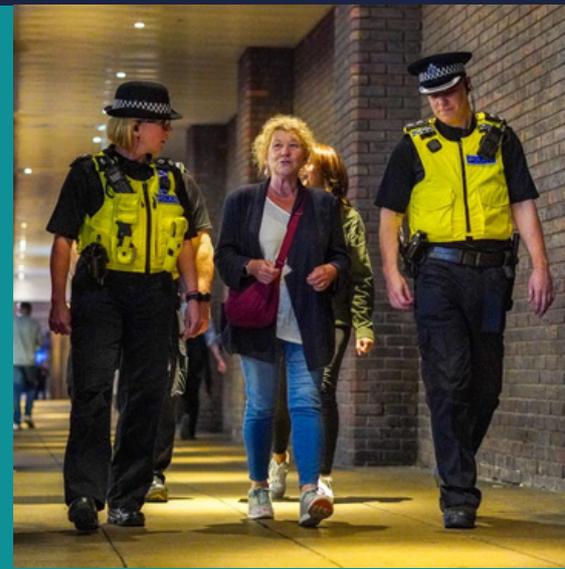
34% ↓ reduction in hospital admissions due to an assault with a sharp object.

PREVENTING WINTER VIOLENCE

Throughout the winter months, we have been working with our partners to deliver a programme of targeted activity to prevent serious violence in hotspot areas.

Targeted initiatives, including extra patrols, taxi marshals, youth activities, and licensed premises checks, are helping keep communities safe by focusing resources where they are needed most.

Read more [here](#).





HOSPITAL NAVIGATORS

Our A&E Navigator project is making a real impact, supporting young people presenting with injuries or concerns related to violent crime.

Navigators working in Sunderland Royal Hospital provide intervention at critical moments to help break cycles of violence, with 34% of those engaged receiving additional tailored community support.

Police and Crime Commissioner, Susan Dungworth said: "We must keep doing everything we can to break the cycle of violence, and this project not only helps achieve this, but also connects young people with the support they need."

Read more about the A&E Navigator project [here](#).

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR

Our Violence Prevention Ambassadors Programme offers interactive online training to address the root causes of serious violence.

Youth workers, practitioners, and community leaders can access e-learning modules on knife crime, joint enterprise, gangs and youth violence, and hidden harms, gaining the knowledge and skills to support young people in making safer choices.

Complete all modules to become an ambassador and join a network of informed individuals committed to breaking cycles of violence, and creating safer communities.

Read more about the programme [here](#).



YOUNG PEOPLE STAND AGAINST HATE

Young people, supported by The Angelou Centre, hosted a powerful Culture Day in Newcastle, celebrating diversity and promoting unity.

Funded by our Local Youth Fund, the event featured art, music, educational workshops, and discussions to tackle hate crime and bring communities together.

Police and Crime Commissioner Susan Dungworth praised the initiative, highlighting its vital role in fostering understanding and empowering young people to take a stand against hate.

Read more about Culture Day [here](#).



TRAINEE DETECTIVE WEEK RETURNS

The Trainee Detective programme is back with two events engaging students from Jesmond Park Academy and Mortimer School, in a real-life investigation to understand the devastating impact of knife crime.

Delivered by our team, Northumbria Police and partners, the week long programme offers an immersive experience where students become detectives.

Using innovative technology to reconstruct the crime scene, this approach not only equips students with vital life skills but also reinforces our commitment to preventing violence and creating safer communities. Read more [here](#).

REDUCING MISSING FROM HOME CASES

Safe Return is a new initiative that launched in Sunderland to help prevent young people from repeatedly going missing from home.

In partnership with Northumbria Police, Together for Children and Waythrough, the scheme provides earlier intervention to explore missing episodes, using tailored support to address underlying causes, and ensuring young people feel safe.

Read more about the pilot [here](#).



NEW KNIFE CRIME AWARENESS VIDEO

A powerful short film highlighting the devastating impact of knife crime has been named the winner at an annual awards ceremony, part of a long-standing partnership with Sunderland University.

The winning film, Hold On, tells the story of Amy, who faces a heart-breaking decision, whether to report her sister who was responsible for a fatal stabbing.

The film powerfully demonstrates how knife crime doesn't just affect those directly involved, but ripples through entire communities, becoming a vital tool in our ongoing awareness and prevention work.

Read more about this project and watch the film [here](#).



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